

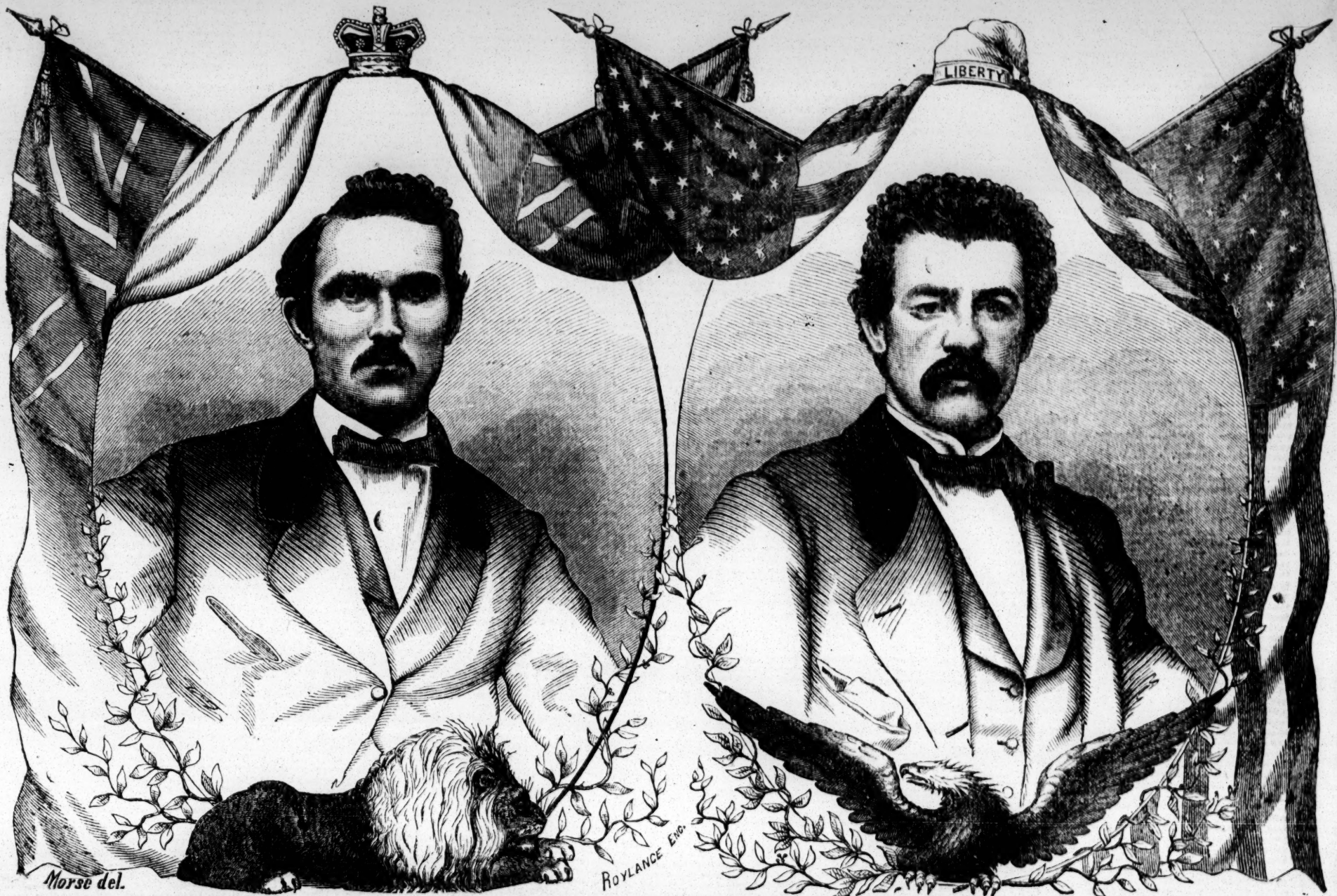
THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

AMERICAN SPORTING AND THEATRICAL JOURNAL.

FRANK QUEEN,
Editor and Proprietor.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1864.

VOL. XI.—No. 38.
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TOM KING—Height, 6 feet 2½ inches; Weight, 180 lbs.

JOHN C. HEENAN—Height, 6 feet 1½ inches; Weight, 194 lbs.

THE YOUNG GIANTS OF THE OLD WORLD AND THE NEW.

THE GREAT PRIZE FIGHT OF THE AGE.

Desperate Contest for \$10,000.

King and Heenan in a Grand Trial of Strength.

THE BRITON WINS.

OFFICIAL REPORT

History of the Pugilistic Belligerents.

THE MAKING OF THE MATCH.

The Place of Fighting and Journey Thereto.

FORMING THE RING.

APPEARANCE OF THE MEN AND THEIR SECONDS.

THE FIGHT—FULL AND RELIABLE DETAILS.

REMARKS OF THE LONDON PRESS.

How the News was Received in New York.

Date of Fight—Dec. 10th, 1863.

The great pugilistic event of the age—the match between Tom King and John C. Heenan for Ten Thousand Dollars—is now numbered among the things of the past and as reliable historians of doings in the sporting world, we herewith give the readers of the CLIPPER a full and complete account of one of the most exciting meetings in the Prize Ring that we have ever recorded. The match, which was for the largest stake ever contended for in the British Ring, took place on the 10th of December, and was won by Tom King in twenty-five rounds, occupying thirty-five minutes—the actual fighting time being only about seven minutes—the balance being consumed between the rounds in refreshing and resting the men. We need not say that the result is a sad disappointment to the American people, who, as a general thing, considered that Heenan would be the conqueror. They backed up their opinion by wagering large sums of money on the success of the man of their choice; in many instances, so confident were they of the result, they offered the most extravagant odds, and were never tired of laying 6 to 1, and for the last week or two odds of 2 to 1 were freely offered. These odds mostly found ready takers, and the consequence was that perhaps five hundred thousand dollars changed hands in this country on the result of this extraordinary match.

The most casual observer of events as they pass can but have had his interest awakened by the notes of preparation so long

and so distinctly sounded for this encounter of man to man, courage to courage, and skill to skill. This event, too, was lifted above the ordinary level of such occasions, alike by the standing of the men, the great sum contended for, the dignity, the rank, and wealth of those immediately supporting them, the gravity of the interests involved in the betting, the extraordinary efforts to insure "fair play"—all these raised this event from the ordinary spectacles of pugilism; demanding, as it has received, the attention of the moralist and philosopher. But no more of this: the CLIPPER is a recorder of many deeds in all legitimate struggles for supremacy, rather than a dealer in philosophical abstractions, or well-meaning but heavy moralizations. So we will commence our record with a

HISTORY OF THE MEN.

WHO THEY ARE—HEIGHT AND WEIGHT—AND WHAT THEY HAVE DONE.

TOM KING was born August 14th, 1835, in Silver street, Stepney. He weighs about 182 lbs., and is above 6 ft. 2 in. in height. He went a couple of voyages as a sailor to the coast of Africa, after which he got the situation as foreman among the shipping at Victoria Docks, during which time he "whipped" one or two quarrelsome and ambitious "parties." The news of these victories reached Jem Ward, who sought and obtained an interview with King. He was likewise present at a turn-up between King and an aspirant by the name of Brighton Bill, who was thoroughly thrashed in one round, that he retired from the P.R.I. The conduct of King so delighted Ward, that he declared there were some sterling qualities about the youngster that only required development to make him a first class pugilist. King, after this, was matched as "Jem Ward's Big 'un," with Smith, of Portsmouth, who forfeited at the second deposit. Clump, of Newgate Market, was the next to stake money for a contest with Master Tommy, but having taken stock of the "juvenile big 'un," he thought discretion the better part of valor, and he also forfeited the first installment! King, finding he could not get on a match with some of the middle weights for a smallish amount, challenged to fight anybody for \$100 aside, which also met with no response, and King began to think he was going to achieve an unenviable notoriety without distinguishing himself in the magic arena, when Tommy Trickle, of Portsmouth, stepped out of his sphere, and a match was made at catch-weight, for £50 a side. They met November 27th, 1860, and King won easily in forty-nine rounds and 1 hour 2 min. King, who was much the taller and heavier man, took a decided lead, although Trickle got the first blood from the nose. King, after this, had the fight all his own way, scoring his maiden victory rather cleverly. In the following year, Jem Mace, having proved victorious over Hurst, was challenged by King, and a match was made for £200 a side and the Champion's belt, to take place in January, 1862. Immediately after the match for the Championship with Mace was fairly on train, Young Broome challenged King for £50 a side, at catch weight, which was at once accepted by Tom King, and they fought a tremendous battle at Finsbury, October 21, 1861, Broome being defeated in 43 rounds and in 44 min. Immediately after this victory, King went into training for his fight with Mace, which took place near Godstone, on January 18, 1862, Mace knocking King out of time in 43 rounds and in 68 min. On November 26th, of the same year, King and Mace fought their battle of brag, when the result was reversed, as is tersely told below in a letter to the CLIPPER from Joe Rowe:

"THE GRAPES," Paternoster Row, Union street, Nov. 26th.

"EDITOR CLIPPER:—Dear Sir: The fight between Mace and King came off this morning at Thames Haven, where, after fighting twenty one rounds in thirty-eight minutes, Tom may be said to have won it in the nineteenth round, when he hit Jem such a tremendous right header on the nose, flooring him like an ox, that Master Mace never got over the effects of it. Tom talks of retiring on his laurels."

Mace felt highly chagrined at his defeat, and tried to banter King into another match, but it was no go, for King shut his ears to all offers, and resigned his claim to the championship. We are inclined to believe that King's reason for declining Mace's offer was that he had one eye at least on Heenan, considering, no doubt, that a set-to with the American would put more money in his purse, and add very much more to his reputation than a dozen fights with Mace would. At all events, such a conclusion is warranted by the making of his match with Heenan.

JOHN CARMEL HEENAN was born in West Troy, New York, May 1st, 1834, of Irish parents. In height he is 6 feet 1½ inches, and his weight, when in fighting trim, about 192 lbs. When the California fever was raging, Heenan migrated thither to better

his fortune, and finally located at a place called Benicia. Here it was that he first gave promise of becoming one of the ornaments of the P. R., and his local reputation for boxing skill was great; hence the familiar cognomen applied to him—"Benicia boy." It was here also, that he made the acquaintance of James Cusick, who piloted him to New York, in 1855, to find some one against whom he might be pitted to try his prowess. His appearance then was extremely youthful and his manner retiring; he hardly appeared to be the man he has since proven himself to be in two of the most desperate prize battles ever fought. In a short time, however, he made many staunch friends, and he was often mentioned as a fit opponent of John Morrissey, against whom he was eventually matched. He never appeared in the Prize Ring until his fight with Morrissey, at Long Point, Canada, on the 10th of October, 1858, when, owing to the bad condition in which the Boy was, he was obliged to acknowledge defeat, after a fight of eleven rounds, occupying twenty minutes.

Until Heenan challenged John Morrissey, he was comparatively unknown in these parts; and though said to be possessed of considerable natural skill, backed up with a herculean frame, he had never even seen ring fight. His performances were confined almost exclusively to the golden country, and those were turn-ups on the spur of the moment, without any ceremony or set rule, and which were generally ended by less than half a dozen of his powerful left handers coming in contact with somebody's head piece. In California he had so signally distinguished himself in all his chance encounters, and proved he possessed the pure metal, that his friends determined to match him against a foeman worthy of his steel, believing he had the right stuff in him to fight any man living.

His fight with Morrissey, although it did not result in a victory for Heenan, added largely to his reputation, and several futile efforts were made for them to fight their battle over again. Failing in this, the Boy directed his attention Englandward, and entered the lists for an encounter with the redoubtable Thomas Sayers, then and for some time previous England's boss boxer, and in January, 1860, CLIPPER readers were regaled with the news that a match had actually been made between them, to fight for the champion belt of England and \$2,000. Articles of agreement were drawn up and signed at Owen Swift's, in London, on December 15, 1859, amidst the greatest enthusiasm, by their respective representatives, Messrs. Fred Falkland and John Gideon. The news was immediately forwarded to the CLIPPER, through which the intelligence was first made known to Heenan, who immediately set about preparing for his trip across the Atlantic. When the welcome news was made public that John C. Heenan, the American, and Tom Sayers, the famous British boxer, were really to meet for a bout at fistions on April 16, 1860, the attention of the people gravitated largely to pugilism, and towards Heenan and Sayers in particular, until, in a few short weeks, "The International Prize Fight" became the one and all absorbing topic of conversation. Heenan, at the time of the receipt of the news, was trying to "dodge the books," who wanted him to settle some little arrangement in Buffalo, and tried to prevent his leaving the country; but he finally succeeded in eluding them, and on January 16th, 1860, at 6 o'clock, A. M., he embarked on board the steamship Asia at Jersey City, and went on his way rejoicing, with the good wishes of his many friends waiting him towards the rising sun, to that land where he was to meet with many foes, a few staunch friends, and, finally, disappointment. After a passage of eleven days, the Benicia boy arrived safely at Liverpool on January 16th, and landed at St. George's Dock, where immense crowds had gathered to get a glimpse of him, and who cheered him vociferously. He journeyed straightway to London, where he was made "the lion of the day," notwithstanding he avoided recognition as much as possible. After a move or two to avoid police interference, Heenan, with two or three well tried friends, took up his quarters for training at Salisbury, where, on or about March 13th, he went to work with a will to get himself into the best condition possible. From thence, through the CLIPPER's special correspondent, sent to England expressly to watch the match, satisfactory information was received from time to time of his progress, and the excitement increased. Immense amounts of money were freely invested, both in England and the United States, chiefly at odds on Sayers, the Britisher having no idea that a man could be found to withstand such a skillful and brave boxer as he had proved himself to be. As the eventful day drew near, excitement became intensified; and when April 16, 1860, had passed, the people became almost fighting mad, and sought the nearest scrap of news in regard to the fight with the greatest avidity, so that it was with difficulty we could get CLIPPER enough printed to supply the demand. At length, on April 16, the unwelcome news came that the fight had taken place, but had resulted in an unsatisfactory manner, owing to the unfair interference of the crowd and the fight of the referees. On this becoming known, what was excitement became anger, and England's motto, "A fair field, no favor, and may the best man win,"

was elicited to the letter. A synopsis of this great fight may not be without interest just now.

In the first round both played possum to a great degree, each one endeavoring to find out the other's weak point, and it was some time before the first blow was struck, when Sayers got in his left terrifically on Benicia's nose, who returned heavily on Sayers' mouth. In closing, Heenan threw Sayers heavily, thereby getting the first fall, while to Sayers was awarded the claim of first blood. In the second round Heenan got the first blow in, and again got the fall, and the betting turned in his favor at 2 to 1. In the third round Heenan got the first knock down by a tremendous hit on Tom's mouth, sending him nearly through the ropes. The fourth round ended in a similar manner, the Americans being in ecstasies, and the Bulls having the blues. Betting, 7 to 4 on Heenan. In the sixth, Sayers gained a point by administering a heavy one with his left on the Boy's right cheek, when almost immediately it was observed that Heenan's right shutter was closing. In the seventh round both treated each other with the utmost respect, and behaved warily. It lasted 18 minutes, having been brought to a termination by a terrific counter with the Boy's left on Tom's mouth, which sent him to grass. The eighth was another long round, ending in favor of Heenan, who knocked Sayers clean off his feet. The ninth and tenth were shorter, and in the latter, on Tom coming the ducking dodge, Heenan gave him one in the back with (old Broadway) his right. The eleventh and twelfth were also brief, Sayers weak and weary, the Boy appearing fresh and vigorous. The thirteenth round concluded by Heenan getting in "one for Fred" (Falkland), on the jaw, which sent Sayers heavily to mother earth. In the fourteenth, after a short struggle, Tom managed to be uppermost in the fall. From this to the twenty-first Heenan was first to the scratch, gaining some advantage in each round. He was also anxious to force the fighting, but Sayers held aloof, evidently intending to take his time to close the Boy's eyes. The four succeeding rounds were almost counterparts of the few previous ones, saving that instead of knocking Sayers down Heenan threw him heavily. In the twenty-sixth, a terrific rally occurred, which set them both puffing, and hostilities ceased for a minute or two to sponge off and refresh. On resuming, Tom got a nasty one on the mouth without a return, and got down to avoid punishment. From this to the thirtieth round, matters remained about "as you were," except in the last, when Heenan threw Sayers easily in the latter's corner. In the thirty-first Heenan's peepers were observed to be much swollen, and both had bellores, which Heenan was strong on his pins, however, while Sayers was very weak. Heenan again knocked his man down, who was repeated in the two following rounds. In the thirty-fifth, Heenan, who seemed to have got all his strength back, met Tom at the scratch, and went to hard work quickly. The boy led off with his left, and got heavily on Tom's mouth, and followed it with another on the Champion's ivory box. Some fainting then followed, when Heenan let go his right, catching Sayers' jaw below the throat. A close, when Heenan threw his man, falling on him like a log. In the thirty-sixth, Tom was slow in coming to time, and fought very shy. Heenan got in a couple of heavy ones, and finally threw Sayers heavily at the ropes, amid great excitement and confusion. The several rounds from this to the fortieth were fought under the most exciting circumstances; Heenan having the advantage in some respect almost every time, and in the fortieth, our reporter stated that "Sayers got through the ropes to the outside of the ring, and had a blanket thrown over him." The remainder of the rounds, owing to the fact of the ring having been broken in, partook more of the character of a free fight, the referees having ignobly left his post, and all was confusion worse confounded. In what may be termed the forty-third and last round, Heenan, at the call of time, walked up to the outside of the ring, and had a blanket thrown over him. The Boy made a rush for his man, Sayers getting up and putting himself in position, but the crowd interfered, and no blow was struck. Heenan went to his corner and took a seat, McDonald advising him not to leave the ring until Sayers had got on his feet, and the assistance of his seconds, got over the ropes, and walked slowly away, with a hand on each of their shoulders. Heenan, who was dreadfully excited, called for him to come back to the scratch. The Boy then jumped singly over the ropes, and after walking a few steps commenced a run towards the railroad track, 600 yards distance, crossing two fences on his way, and leaving many of his friends behind. [The fight lasted two hours and twenty minutes.]

A whole chapter might be written on Heenan's efforts to get another chance; how the affair was compromised by each man getting his money back with a fac simile bill, which, however, were never paid for, and which Heenan had to return; how both men were landed in England; how Heenan was at last deluded in this country on his return, on July 18th, 1860, went round in this country and largely attended exhibitions to give in conjunction with Jack McDonald and James Cusick, his tried friends

[illegible]

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E. W. FREEMONT, R. FREEMONT,

J. L. GILBERT, J. L. HILLIARD,

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